

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 065691-0216

Applicants:

Jean-Claude CHERMANN et al.

Title:

VACCINE AGAINST INFECTIOUS AGENTS HAVING AN

INTRACELLULAR PHASE, COMPOSITION FOR THE TREATMENT

AND PREVENTION OF HIV INFECTIONS, ANTIBODIES AND

METHOD OF DIAGNOSIS

Application No.:

09/827,345

Filing Date:

April 6, 2001

Examiner:

Myron G. Hill

Art Unit:

1648

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

26.

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated August 14, 2002, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Please amend this application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-25, without prejudice or disclaimer, and kindly add the following new claims:

26. (New) An antibody which binds to at least one isolated β2-microglobulin cryptic epitope, said epitope has/15 amino acids or less and comprises an amino acid sequence, Pro-Lys-Ile.

27. (New) A composition comprising at least one antibody according to claim